

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Claims 33-40 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of Claims:

3. (Previously presented) A method of providing an address, said method comprising:
 - providing a requesting device coupled to a network;
 - providing an address, said address comprising a protocol identifier;
 - providing a port identifier, said port identifier operable to identify a port on said requesting device;
 - including said port identifier as part of said address;
 - transmitting said address from said requesting device onto said network;
 - receiving said address at an intermediate device; and
 - addressing a data provider device while including said port identifier as part of an address string.
4. (Original) The method as described in claim 3 and further comprising:
 - transmitting a message from said data provider to the port of said requesting device identified by said port identifier.
5. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an address, comprising:

providing an application-level protocol identifier;

providing an IP identifier;

providing a requesting device identifier; and

providing a requesting device port identifier.

6. (Currently amended) The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

coupling said application-level protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said requesting device identifier and said requesting device port identifier.

7. (Original) The method as described in claim 5 and further comprising:

providing a file identifier.

8. (Currently amended) The method as described in claim 7 and further comprising:

coupling said application-level protocol identifier with said IP identifier, said requesting device identifier, said requesting device port identifier, and said file identifier as an address string.

9. (Previously presented) The method as described in claim 8 and further comprising:

organizing said address structure so that said port identifier is adjacent said requesting device identifier.

22. (Currently amended) A data structure for a device on a network, said data structure comprising:

an application-level protocol identifier field;

an internet protocol identifier field for use in addressing an intermediary device;

a requesting device identifier field; and

a requesting device port identifier field.

23. (Currently amended) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said internet protocol identifier field is located between said application-level protocol identifier field and said requesting device identifier field.

24. (Currently amended) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said requesting device identifier field is located between said application-level protocol identifier field and said internet protocol identifier field.

25. (Previously presented) The data structure as described in claim 22 wherein said requesting device port identifier field is located adjacent said requesting device identifier field.

26. (Previously presented) The data structure as described in claim 22 and further comprising a file identifier field for identifying a file stored on a data provider device.

27. (Currently amended) A computer data signal comprising:

an application-level protocol identifier segment;

an internet protocol identifier segment for use in addressing an intermediary device;

a requesting device identifier segment; and

a requesting device port identifier segment.

28. (Previously presented) The computer data signal as described in claim 27 and further comprising:

a file identifier segment for identifying a file stored on a data provider device.

29. (Previously presented) The computer data signal as described in claim 27 wherein said requesting device port identifier segment is operable for designating a port on a requesting device from which a request for data originated.

30. (Currently amended) An apparatus for use in a network, said apparatus comprising:

a computer operable to provide an address for addressing a device on said network;

code for use by said computer operable to provide an application level protocol identifier field;

code for use by said computer operable to provide an internet protocol identifier field for use in addressing an intermediary device;

code for use by said computer operable to provide a requesting device identifier field; and

code for use by said computer operable to provide a requesting device port identifier field.

31. (Previously presented) The apparatus as described in claim 30 and further comprising:

code for use by said computer operable to provide a file identifier field.

32. (Currently amended) The apparatus as described in claim 31 and further comprising:

code for use by said computer operable to configure said application-level protocol identifier field, said internet protocol identifier field, said requesting device identifier field, said requesting device port identifier field, and said file identifier field as a single address.

33-40 (Cancelled)